GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3397
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2001
SRI LANKAN REFUGEES IN THE COUNTRY
ARUN KUMAR

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Sri Lankan refugees staying in the country, till date, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to send back these refugees to their country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a): There are about 65,000 Sri Lankan refugees staying in refugee camps in Tamil Nadu and about 100 in Orissa. Besides, some Sri Lankan refugee families are staying outside camps in Tamil Nadu.

(b): The Government of India has been in touch with the Government of Sri Lanka, through Indian Embassy in Colombo, for arranging early repatriation of Sri Lankan refugees back to Sri Lankan.As soon as, consent of Sri Lankan Government to accept such repatriation is received, these refugees would be repatriated to their country.